



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02114-2136  
(617) 626-1200 FAX: (617) 626-1240

May 20, 2020

### **Draft 309 Assessment and Strategy for Enhancement for 2021—2025**

The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) is currently seeking public comment on its draft 309 Assessment and Strategy for Enhancement for 2021—2025, which is being prepared in consultation with NOAA's Office for Coastal Management (OCM).

Every five years, states and territories are encouraged to conduct self-assessments of their coastal management programs to determine problems and enhancement opportunities within each of the nine enhancement areas—and to assess the effectiveness of existing management efforts to address identified problems. Each coastal management program identifies high priority management issues as well as important needs and information gaps the program must fill to address these issues. The nine enhancement areas are: Wetlands, Coastal Hazards, Public Access, Marine Debris, Cumulative and Secondary Impacts, Special Area Management Plans, Ocean Resources, Energy and Government Facility Siting, & Aquaculture.

The coastal management program then develops strategies, consulting with OCM, to improve its operations to address these management needs. The strategies provide a stepwise approach to reach a stated goal and lead to enhancement in the state's or territory's federally approved coastal management program. To learn more about the Section 309 Coastal Zone Enhancement Grants Program and the nine enhancement areas, go to:

<http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/enhancement>

#### **Public Comment:**

Read CZM's draft here <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2020/05/06/czm-309-strategy-2021-2025-draft.pdf> (PDF)

Comments may be submitted to: [Christopher.Garby@mass.gov](mailto:Christopher.Garby@mass.gov)

Due to the current state of emergency from COVID-19, the preference is for electronic submission of comments. In the case this is not possible, comments may be submitted by regular mail to:

Office of Coastal Zone Management  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800  
Boston, MA 02114  
ATTN: Christopher Garby

Public comment period closes June 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

